

03500.015453.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MASAHKO KUBOTA, et al.

Application No.: 09/878,946

Filed: June 13, 2001

For: SOLID SEMICONDUCTOR

ELEMENT, INK TANK,

INK JET RECORDING

APPARATUS PROVIDED

WITH INK TANK, LIQUID

INFORMATION ACQUIRING

METHOD AND LIQUID

PHYSICAL PROPERTY CHANGE :

DISCRIMINATING METHOD)

Examiner: L. Liang

Group Art Unit: 2853

December 19, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEWS

Sir:

This is to provide a written summary of recent telephone interviews with
Examiner Leonard Liang in the above-identified application.

In a first interview with Examiner Liang on November 19, 2003, Mr. Liang
indicated that he would withdraw finality of the pending Office Action and issue a new,
non-final, Office Action, which might be a rejection.

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In a second interview of December 18, 2003, the Examiner confirmed his earlier interview to the effect that he would withdraw finality of the pending Office Action and issue a new, non-final, Office Action. However, Mr. Liang indicated that he would not be able to issue a new, non-final, Office Action until after December 20, 2003, which is the last extended date for filing an appeal brief or taking other action to preserve pendency of the application. Accordingly, the Examiner's Supervisor, Mr. Stephen Meier, was involved. In a follow-up interview on December 19, 2003, Mr. Meier and Mr. Liang indicated that prosecution on the merits would be reopened before the December 20, 2003 date for taking further action.

Accordingly, no action is needed on Applicants' part to preserve pendency of the application.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested, particularly given that the last response to the final rejection was filed on October 17, 2003. See MPEP § 714.13:

"An Examiner is expected to turn in a response to an Amendment After Final Rejection within ten calendar days from the time the Amendment is received by the Examiner. A reply to an Amendment After Final Rejection should be mailed within 30 days of the date the Amendment is received by the Office."

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

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